

Each of claims 1-10 and 15-22 have been allowed, for which the Applicants thank the Examiner.

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Notice of Draftsperson's Drawing Review (PTO-948) and submit the formal drawings enclosed herewith in response thereto.

The Applicants acknowledge, and thank the Examiner, for making the references listed on the PTO Form 1449 submitted to the Patent Office on January 13, 2000, on the PTO Form 1449 submitted to the Patent Office on February 11, 2000, on the PTO Form 1449 submitted to the Patent Office on March 17, 2000, and on the PTO Form 1449 submitted to the Patent Office on May 30, 2000 of record in the application.

The Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in the above-referenced patent application.

**The Rejection of the Claims 11 and 12 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)**

Each of claims 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,141,666 to *Tobin*, for the reasons stated in paragraphs 4 through 6 of the Office Action.

In order to expedite the issuance of the patent in this matter for the allowed claims, the Applicants have cancelled each of claims 11 and 12 from the application, without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 11 and 12 has been mooted.

**CONCLUSION**

For at least the reasons stated above, Applicants courteously solicit a Notice of Allowance in the above-referenced patent application.

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The Examiner is invited and encouraged to directly contact the undersigned if such contact may enhance the efficient prosecution of this application to issue.

No additional fee is believed to be due with this response. If, however, the Commissioner believes that a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such additional fee(s) from, or credit any fee overpayment(s) to, Deposit Account No. 14-0629.

Respectfully submitted,

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below.

  
Lucy J. Lehman

2/10/03  
Date